The Veterinary Record

FOUNDED BY WILLIAM HUNTING, F.R.C.V.S., 1888.

No. 9. MARCH 4, 1933. VOL. XIII.

RECUMBENCY IN HORSES AND CATTLE*

F. C. SCOTT, M.R.C.V.S.
PONTEFRACT

Inability or unwillingness to seek the standing position, whilst only a symptom, is often the outstanding symptom of many vague conditions, just as it is a symptom in some better-known ones. Very often it impedes the making of a diagnosis which might otherwise have been arrived at simply. One cannot discuss every disease in which it occurs, but a discussion on recumbency in general, I feel, must confirm that which is known and possibly throw light on some of the obscure cases which we meet.

In horses, recumbency for long periods is intolerable, as struggling occurs, with the production of bed-sores or exhaustion, apart from the serious nature of the condition which may have brought about the recumbency.

In cattle the case is different, and one often treats a bovine for days or weeks without concern.

RECUMBENCY IN HORSES

Debility and spinal anchylosis are, perhaps, the two commonest causes of recumbency in the horse, if one excepts accidental causes, and occasional ones such as azoturia, myositis, tetanus, arthritis and stupidity. Of the last-mentioned condition, no doubt many of you have experience; I have noticed, in this, that the animal, once recumbent, has never tried to get up, and despite any measures applied simply declines help, to get up alone when ready to do so.

Advancing age is a factor of importance in many recumbencies.

Pain should be included as a cause, *e.g.*, colic and severe lameness. One frequently encounters a young, fit horse, down and unable to rise, with no history of accident, and I think these are the most difficult cases to explain.

One noteworthy condition is recumbency in in-foal mares, which occurs chiefly a few weeks prior to the expected date of foaling. Mares of any age may be affected and it occurs in young fit mares as well as in older or debilitated ones.

The mare will be at work one day, is found down in the evening or oftener next morning, in many cases with evidence of there having been a struggle; attempts at raising and slinging are occasionally successful, but the animal again becomes recumbent when released, or hangs in the slings and has to be lowered, or dies. When recumbent there is considerable swelling of the vulva and there is eversion of a congested vagina; sweating is also noted. Recovery is not the rule: I have known only one case recover, and this one was treated with gluconate of calcium and was kept in slings until the act of foaling, when she was released. After foaling, she was again unable to rise, was raised mechanically and kept in slings a further fortnight. The calcium treatment and recovery probably were not related.

What is the cause of this condition, I do not know, but the swellings observed point to a circulatory origin. *Post-mortem* examinations have been made in some of the cases, and in every one made aneurism of the anterior mesenteric artery has been found; this may be casual, but is suggestive that other and less obvious circulatory changes may have occurred also.

Debility.—In mature horses, the commonest causes of debility leading to recumbency, are ascarid worms, unsuitable or insufficient food and starvation, especially if there is also spinal anchylosis. Although strongyles are a dangerous parasite in other situations, in the bowel they rarely cause debility in mature horses, sufficient to bring about recumbency. In the arteries it is probable that they impede the blood supply and contribute to debility.

In young horses, one frequently gets cases of debility leading to recumbency, and in almost all of these, ascarides or strongyles are the cause. The young horse with debility may respond after months in slings, but the type showing considerable œdema under the body, or the one with extensive arterial aneurism, will usually die, sometimes after protracted treatment. It is surprising in many of these cases that one does not see worms voided, neither are any found on *post-mortem* examination, save the embryos in the aneurisms.

One frequently meets a debilitated horse down, unable to rise, simply because in getting down he has reclined in a position too near to the manger, and has left no spare room to allow of his pitching forward when an attempt to rise is made; cattle are also sometimes unable to rise from the same cause.

The partial and progressively disappearing paralysis shown by many horses, on the side on which they have lain, when newly raised,

* Paper presented to the Yorkshire Division, N.V.M.A., at Leeds, January 27th, 1933.

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points to the recumbency having been due to pressure on the blood vessels or nerves supplying certain muscles.

The occurrence of micturition on rising points to the recumbency having been aggravated by retention of urine.

Nerve injury during foaling occurs, but this, like some of the other conditions, would be readily recognised.

Prognosis in a case of recumbency in the horse is rarely easy; fracture of pelvis or limbs or spinal injury, severe tetanus and other definitely hopeless conditions usually can be pronounced upon, but other cases demand a trial-to-raise before either a diagnosis or prognosis can be made.

As a matter of general practice, one searches for evidence of disease or accident, and attempts to raise with rope and blocks—except in the rare case of myositis, laminitis, or arthritis, where the patient will be more comfortable recumbent and so is left alone. If the horse will stand when raised, slings are fitted; if not, a doubtful prognosis is given. One learns very readily that slings are not the equivalent of a hospital bed, but are to keep the animal from getting down, and should the patient place constant weight in the slings, he is better out of them.

The avoiding of recumbency by the horse is also an intriguing question, especially that in hydro-thorax, spinal anchylosis, and in town horses.

RECUMBENCY IN CATTLE

It is rather interesting to consider "Reuff's method" of casting cattle, *viz.*, to twitch the thorax: this produces recumbency. If one then recalls certain cases of heart trouble, pericarditis, or the effect of a too-rapid intravenous injection of formalin, one can readily appreciate that some cases of recumbency in cattle are due to heart pressure or pending failure.

Pain will cause recumbency, even that of a fractured claw or severe dermatitis. Injury at the base of the tail is an occasional cause of recumbency.

Recumbency is often noted in young cattle with "blackquarter," hours before collapse sets in: the recumbency is usually lateral—this, I think, is a heart effect.

One has noticed in fracture of the scapula in stirks that some rise when urged; others assume lateral recumbency and refuse to stir: one can base a fairly accurate prognosis as to recovery on which of these two occurs.

Gangrene of the udder or gangrene of the uterus often exist without more than limited general symptoms, but should a severe septicæmia occur the patient cannot tolerate the standing position for more than a few moments, if at all. In severe enteritis, recumbency is readily sought both in calves and older cattle. In all these conditions, I take the recumbency to be due to impending heart failure. Again, during treatment of milk fever cases, one meets cases which show symptoms of syncope, probably do not rise for several days and prefer lateral recumbency; in these, the heart is probably the cause of the complication.

The major portion of the problem of recumbency in cattle devolves round the calving period.

An indiscretion of diet, followed by diarrhœa, three days' duration, during which the cow will eat, cud, and turn herself from side to side, but one realises that she is not in danger. Presumably a "chill" would so far interfere with digestion as to bring about the same result.

Fracture of the pelvis or of the femur is another cause of recumbency, predisposed to by the condition of the bones at the time of calving and to the construction of the floors of the byre. An unconscious or delirious cow can readily fracture the pelvis by struggling when laid across the deep dung channel. Although consciousness returns after treatment, the cow does not rise, and unless a careful examination is made, the cause is missed. Pubic fracture may occur during the birth of the calf or from the cow slipping with the hind limbs in a diverging position, recumbency being the result. Brain abscess following fractured horn core, and tuberculous meningitis cause recumbency; tuberculosis of the vertebræ usually interferes with the gait rather than being an abrupt cause of recumbency.

Neglected recumbency has certain complications which may render hopeless a case of possibly hopeful recumbency. The development of bedsores on knees and hocks, etc., due to lack of padding, necrosis of the lower thigh muscles due to the vessels becoming thrombosed from pressure whilst the cow is laid in a bad position, are things which have serious consequences but which can be prevented—within reason—by proper attention.

I have left to the last the group of diseases which show nervous symptoms—from "milk fever," on the one hand, through a wide variety of conditions to "lactation tetany" on the other.

Milk Fever, uncomplicated, only needs passing reference, as there is more finality about the outcome of the recumbency in this, than in other conditions mentioned.

There are quite a number of recumbent conditions one treats as milk fever speculatively, with success; there are others which commence as typical milk fever, respond to treatment (in the sense that they regain consciousness), but remain recumbent. Some of these are more or less normal otherwise, and time and care succeed in bringing about recovery; others seek lateral recumbency, show an elevated temperature and sweating after a day or two; maybe

diarrhœa commences and all attempts to prevent bedsores are frustrated; death occurs in four or five days, and *post-mortem* findings are variable or nil. Others will remain recumbent for two or three weeks, giving the owner the impression that there are attacks of pain several times daily: these cases usually die, or are slaughtered in despair. Considering the wide variety of symptoms met in a series of milk fever cases, one can readily believe that the adjustment necessary in the animal economy is different in each case, and whilst our known methods are successful in a majority of cases, the "non-recoverers" are beyond the limits of the powers-to-adjust of those remedies, and until the truth is more fully available and utilisable, we shall continue to have these unsatisfactory cases of recumbency.

Lactation Tetany.—In discussing recumbency one cannot leave this out. It is probably doubtful if the profession is unanimous as to what this condition is; one veterinary surgeon gets results with chloral hydrate, another swears by calcium, and yet others have used calcium gluconate in excessive doses on occasion, without any response whatever; in fact, they have abandoned its use. During the spring of 1932, April, May and June, several cases came to my notice. Those which were found in the morning were the worst cases, and if not found dead, soon arrived at that condition naturally, or by the urgent employment of a butcher. Those found during the day presented the cases which recovered, and this was materially aided—if not indispensably so—by the giving of large doses of chloral hydrate; the cow was put to sleep and for probably two or three days a "dozy" condition was maintained, by repeating the chloral. If one withheld it too soon, the convulsions would commence anew.

I have had one case during the past fortnight. Chloral was given the first day; on the second day there was improvement but still pronounced hyperæsthesia, so that the chloral was repeated, and the injection of magnesium, recommended by Dr. Dryerre, was given, the result being that the cow made a rapid recovery. I intend to follow up this treatment, should the occasion arise, as similar cases, occurring formerly, did not respond to calcium treatment.

Cases of lactation tetany which are not recumbent when first seen, will readily become so, unless handled with extreme care.

To my mind, the most unsatisfactory cases of recumbency in dairy cattle are those which commence as typical milk fever, but do not respond to treatment, and after a variable time die or have to be slaughtered.

Disease of the liver is frequently found on *post-mortem* in animals which have been recumbent. My own view on this finding is that extensive liver disease is so often present in animals in good health, that a diseased condition found in an animal which happens to have been recumbent, cannot fairly be put down as the cause of the recumbency; it may have been in existence for a considerable time or may be secondary to the cause which has brought about the recumbency.

In both horses and cattle there are many points in connection with recumbency I have omitted, but I hope sufficient has been said to introduce a discussion.

Report

REPORT OF THE TSETSE-FLY COMMITTEE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TREATMENT OF ANIMAL AND HUMAN TRYPANOSOMIASIS AND IN TSETSE-FLY CONTROL IN THE PERIOD 1925-31

At the first meeting of the Committee of Civil Research, held on June 18th, 1925, the Prime Minister appointed a Sub-Committee of that Committee with instructions "to prepare as soon as possible a practical scheme of British inquiry and British action, aimed at controlling the tsetse-fly as a carrier of human and animal trypanosomiasis and at a preventive and curative treatment of the human and animal disease." Later, on April 12th, 1927, a Tsetse-Fly Committee was constituted as a standing advisory committee of the Economic Advisory Council "to consider and report on questions relating to human and animal trypanosomiasis in the British Colonies and Dependencies in Africa. The report of this Committee, recording the progress achieved during the period 1925-31, has at last been published. The Committee, under the chairmanship of the Right Hon. the Earl of Plymouth, has consisted of twelve members, Dr. W. Horner Andrews, M.R.C.V.S., Director of Veterinary Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, being the only veterinary representative. The Report shows how serious is the tsetse-fly menace in many parts of Africa. It points out that "over large stretches of territory no economic progress will be possible until this problem has been successfully tackled, and even in areas that are at present settled there is often a danger that an advance of fly may take a heavy toll of human life and of the livestock on which the native largely depends for his existence. In extreme cases there may, in present conditions, be no alternative to the evacuation of the population and surrender of territory to the fly." This unfortunately applies also to vast areas of valuable territory which, but for

the presence or menace of the tsetse-fly, would be suitable for European settlement.

It is stated that "the period under review has been marked by progress in the recognition of the nature and complexity of the problem presented by animal trypanosomiasis," but we venture to suggest that this was fully appreciated by those residing in affected countries, long before 1925; and judging by the report it is doubtful whether any considerable progress has been made during the past eight years. The value of antimony tartrates in the treatment of nagana is stressed, but these were first introduced into Africa in 1909, and even to-day the actual manner in which they produce their beneficial effects, and the best manner of applying them, have not been determined. The German preparation known as Antimosan presents certain advantages, but is too expensive for general use in the field. A similar drug of British manufacture obtainable at a lower price is greatly to be desired.

Considerable importance is attached to Mr. Swynnerton's theory that properly organised grass fires are capable of eradicating bush tsetse-flies if carried out efficiently for several years, but like all other methods this system has very definite limitations. Reclamation by settlement, the sub-division of tsetse areas by strip clearing, game barriers and fly barriers created by planting broad strips of dense thickets, the wholesale catching of flies by hand or by fly-traps, are also considered, but none of them appears to offer a final solution to the many problems presented.

Reference is made to the latent or dormant form of trypanosomiasis, which is distinguished from chronic infection by the absence of anæmia and other symptoms of illness, the animals being in good condition and often appearing to be in perfect health. In Northern Nigeria it has been estimated that from 20 to 30 per cent. of the cattle show this dormant infection. Similarly in Rhodesia it has been observed that infected cattle after successful treatment survive in tsetse-infected areas for long periods in spite of reinfection. These observations suggest the possibility of artificially premunising animals against trypanosomiasis in a similar manner to that adopted in the protection of cattle against piroplasmosis. If this could be done settlers could take their animals into tsetse-infested country with impunity, and with the organised clearing of the breeding-haunts of the fly it would in time disappear. This idea is based upon practical experience, and appears to offer a greater prospect of success than many of the other measures referred to in the report. The principal objection raised is that immunity against one strain of trypanosome may not completely protect against re-infection with another, but there is reason to believe that this difficulty might be overcome.

The necessity for research is recognised, and recommendations for the provision of financial assistance for research workers were made by the advisory committee. Unfortunately, in these days of economy very little is to be expected in this direction. Retrenchment rather than encouragement is more often the fate of the field worker.

The Committee has met "at frequent and regular intervals, to hear, when possible, the evidence of officers actually engaged on anti-tsetse work in Africa." A list of the witnesses examined, however, does not appear in the report.

The development of the treatment of human trypanosomiasis is dealt with at some length. This has mainly centred round the use of two drugs, Germanin (Bayer 205) and Tryparsamide, either separately or in combination. The preventive use of Bayer 205 or Fourneau 309 is also considered, and the control of *rhodesiense* infection is discussed.

The report is printed and published by His Majesty's Stationery Office and can be obtained, price 6d. net, *plus* postage, direct from that office or through any bookseller.

L. E. W. B.

HUNT SCHEME FOR UNEMPLOYED

The Prince of Wales has written to the Hampshire Hunt strongly commending their scheme for relieving unemployment.

The scheme aims at the utilization of the Hunt Wire Fund in assisting hard-hit landowners and farmers to keep their properties in order and in providing work for the unemployed. This money will be devoted to the provision of materials, and money raised locally to the payment of the men.

The county is divided into areas, which are supervised by members of the Hunt and farmers, and they are arranging for the trimming of overgrown lanes and rides, the repair and erection of gates and rails to take the place of wire where practicable, and the draining of some of the waterlogged areas. Farmers are contributing 25 per cent. towards the outlay on their property. A considerable number of unemployed men, principally those who are unable to draw the "dole," have been engaged, and will continue on this work as long as funds permit.

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"Undergraduates of the Flemish University of Ghent took part in a one-day strike yesterday," says the *Times* of February 2nd, "in favour of transferring the Veterinary School at Cureghem, which is conducted in French, to the University, and of conducting it in Flemish."

The Veterinary Record

March 4th, 1933.

CONGRESS PREPARATIONS

WHERE a national association is concerned, there is no close season for Congress affairs. Scarce has the ink dried on the document informing municipality B that the Annual Meeting at A has accepted its invitation for next year than the Provisional Committee is appointed and the machinery for programme building set in motion forthwith. On other pages of this issue we publish evidence of the admirable progress made with the work in connection with the N.V.M.A. Congress to be held at Llandudno in September next.

In many respects the arrangements made for this year's meeting follow closely upon those which proved so successful at Folkestone. Again the attractions of a first-rate holiday centre—but this time with the frontal appeal of the sea fortified by a background of magnificent mountain scenery—will supplement those of a well-balanced programme. The latter gives evidence of the exercise of the utmost care in catering for the requirements of the clinician, the veterinarian engaged in public health activities, and the research worker, the interests of each being represented, as last year, by a special section.

Preparations for Congress do not rest with the Provisional Committee alone, however; members have their part to play not only in making early determination of their attendance, but in seeking to induce others to follow suit: the earlier and more extensive the use made of the hotel list inserted in this issue, the better for all concerned.

Having something approximating to official sanction for the statement that the third week in September is the one period in the year at which the weather in North Wales leaves nothing to be desired, there is every reason why, thus early, we should join with our readers in making a bid for that cherished accompaniment of the truly successful Congress, a record attendance. In this connection, we are persuaded that there is one aspect of Congress visitation that has yet to be accorded the importance it undoubtedly merits—presumably because no reference to it will be found in any programme, provisional or otherwise. Congress provides an unexampled opportunity for talking "shop"—a pursuit in which every veterinarian takes an ineradicable delight. The instinct is a sound one, for many of our most knowledgeable men find little or no time, alas, to commit to paper their vast experience, and if you want to share that, you must make it your business to meet them. The place to do so this year is Llandudno, the time September 18th to 23rd, and it will be agreed that no more delightful venue for the purpose could have been selected than "The Naples of the North." Apart from the magnificent scenery which surrounds it—and which will be familiar, at least by repute, to all our readers—the town itself has a great claim to supremacy amongst the resorts of the West in that, having no industrial activities, it has laid itself out to achieve prosperity on its single appeal to those in search of health and pleasure.

To conclude by a return to the main theme of this appeal to members to rally at Llandudno to the support of the President and of the Association which leaves no stone unturned to serve them, not only during Convention Week, but throughout the year, we would remind them of the frequency with which one hears the phrase: "It's a good tip; I got it from —— at the Congress."

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE PUBLICATION

The undermentioned has been published recently. Copies can be purchased through any bookseller, or directly from H.M. Stationery Office, at the following addresses:—London: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2, and 28, Abingdon Street, S.W.1; Cardiff: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; Manchester: York Street. Edinburgh: 120, George Street.

	Price Net	*Post Free.*
	s. d.	*s. d.*
War Office: Veterinary Services, Army, Regulations, 1932:—Amendments No. 1. January, 1933. (57-9999) ...	0 1	0 1½

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BACTERIA ASSOCIATED WITH SHIPPING FEVER

In studies conducted at the Kansas Experiment Station, *Pasteurella boviseptica* was isolated in 80 per cent. of the cases of shipping fever where autopsies were made. In 60 per cent. of the 23 cases examined, *P. boviseptica* was associated with either colon type organisms or with members of the Alcaligines group, usually *A. bronchisepticus*. Immunisation of guinea pigs and rabbits by broth and agar cultures showed that *P. boviseptica* had only very slight immunising powers. A comparison of the agglutination titre produced in immunised rabbits and their survival following test injections showed that there was no direct or constant relationship between the degree of protection and the agglutination titre. A comparison of one virulent culture and an avirulent culture showed that there was no direct relationship between the virulence of a culture and its protective properties. The avirulent culture protected a greater number of rabbits than the virulent culture.

N.V.M.A. Congress at Llandudno, September 18th-23rd, 1933

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

The following is the Provisional Programme of the Association's Congress, to be held at Llandudno from September 18th to September 23rd:—

MONDAY, 18TH, *9.30 a.m.*—Opening of Exhibition of Surgical Instruments, Drugs, etc., by the President. (Town Hall.)
MONDAY, 18TH, *10 a.m.*—Opening of the Congress by the Chairman of the Urban District Council of Llandudno. (Town Hall.)
MONDAY, 18TH, *11 a.m.*—Combined Meeting of Public Health, Experimental Pathology, and Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Sections, to discuss further the subject of "Vaccination against Bovine Contagious Abortion and the relation of this Disease to Undulant Fever in Man."
MONDAY, 18TH, *9 p.m.*—Reception by President.
TUESDAY, 19TH, *9.45 a.m.*—Paper: "The Significance of (*a*) Acid-fast Bacilli, (*b*) *Bacillus coli*, in Milk."
TUESDAY, 19TH, *11.30 a.m.*—Paper: "Johne's Disease, including Johne's Disease in Sheep."
WEDNESDAY, 20TH, *9.45 a.m.*—Paper: "Meat Preservation."
WEDNESDAY, 20TH, *11.30 a.m.*—Paper: "Helminths of Economic Importance in Farm Animals, excluding Poultry."
—Excursion for Ladies.
WEDNESDAY, 20TH, *2.30 p.m.*—Council Meeting, Town Hall.
WEDNESDAY, 20TH, *3.30 p.m.*—Annual General Meeting, Town Hall.
WEDNESDAY, 20TH, *7.30 p.m.*—Annual Banquet.
THURSDAY, 21ST, *9.45 a.m.*—Paper: "Diseases and Accidents referable to the Hunting Field and to the Turf."
THURSDAY, 21ST, *11.30 a.m.*—Paper: "Some Fractures and Dislocations in Small Animals."
THURSDAY, 21ST, *2.30 p.m.*—Demonstration on Meat Inspection of Animals, *ante-* and *post-mortem*—Harold Burrow, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. (Public Abattoir, Llandudno.)
THURSDAY 21ST, *Evening.*—Dance in aid of Veterinary Benevolent Funds.
FRIDAY, 22ND, *9.45 a.m.*—Paper: "The Relationship of Poultry Diseases to the Practitioner."
FRIDAY, 22ND, *11.30 a.m.*—Paper: "Swine Fever and Enteritis in Young Pigs."
SATURDAY, 23RD, *9.45 a.m.*—Council Meeting.
SATURDAY, 23RD, *10.15 a.m.*—Closing Meeting.

SUBJECTS FOR PAPERS

PUBLIC HEALTH SECTION

(*President*: *Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Brittlebank*, C.M.G., M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. (VICT.).
(*Vice-President*: *Major D. S. Rabagliati*, O.B.E., B.SC., F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.)
(*Recording Secretary*: *P. F. Dolan, Esq.*, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.)

1.—"The Significance of (*a*) Acid-fast Bacilli, (*b*) *Bacillus coli*, in Milk."
By G. O. Davies, M.V.SC., M.R.C.V.S., D.V.H., Liverpool.
Opener: Captain H. L. Torrance, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Nottingham.
2.—"Meat Preservation."
By Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, M.SC., M.R.C.V.S., London.
Opener: T. Moran, D.SC., PH.D., Low Temperature Research Station, Cambridge.

VETERINARY MEDICINE AND SURGERY SECTION

(*President*: *Captain R. L. Lewis*, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.H.)
(*Vice-President*: *Captain J. Cane*, M.R.C.V.S.)
(*Recording Secretary*: To be appointed.)

1.—"Helminths of Economic Importance in Farm Animals, excluding Poultry."
By Captain A. W. Noel Pillers, F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Liverpool.
Opener: Captain N. Bisset, M.R.C.V.S., Cardiff.
2.—"Diseases and Accidents referable to the Hunting Field and to the Turf."
By Major A. A. Comerford, M.R.C.V.S., Potton.
Opener: Captain E. Brayley Reynolds, O.B.E., M.R.C.V.S., Newmarket.
3.—"Some Fractures and Dislocations in Small Animals."
By Professor J. McCunn, M.R.C.V.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London.
Opener: C. Wentworth Elam, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.H., Liverpool.
4.—"The Relationship of Poultry Diseases to the Practitioner."
By Norman Dobson, B.SC., M.R.C.V.S., Weybridge.
Opener: G. C. Marginson, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. (VICT.), Whitestake.

EXPERIMENTAL PATHOLOGY SECTION

(*President*: *Professor J. F. Craig*, M.A., M.R.C.V.S.)

(*Vice-President*: *Major R. Isherwood*, M.R.C.V.S.)

(*Recording Secretary*: *Captain O. V. Gunning*, D.V.M., M.R.C.V.S.)

1.—"Johne's Disease, including Johne's Disease in Sheep."
By Dr. F. C. Minett, M.B.E., M.R.C.V.S., London.
Openers: Major G. W. Dunkin, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.H., Mill Hill; H. Llewelyn-Jones, M.R.C.V.S., Denbigh.

2.—"Swine Fever and Enteritis in Young Pigs."
By J. O. Powley, M.R.C.V.S., Harrogate.
Opener: F. Beckett, M.R.C.V.S., Blandford.

COMBINED SECTIONS

(*President*: *Professor J. Basil Buxton*, M.A., F.R.C.V.S., D.V.H.)

(*Vice-President*: *William Woods, Esq.*, F.R.C.V.S.)

(*Recording Secretary*: *Harold Burrow, Esq.*, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.)

"Vaccination against Bovine Contagious Abortion and the relation of this Disease to Undulant Fever in Man."
By Dr. W. H. Andrews, M.R.C.V.S., Weybridge.
Openers: Captain S. J. Motton, F.R.C.V.S., Penzance. (From the Practitioner's point of view.)
Captain J. McAllan, M.A., B.SC., M.R.C.V.S., Belfast, and Sir Weldon Dalrymple-Champneys, Bart., M.D., M.R.C.P., Ministry of Health. (From the Public Health point of view.)
L. E. W. Bevan, M.R.C.V.S., London. (From the Experimental Pathology aspect.)

LIST OF HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES

Hotels

Grand Hotel, *Promenade* (licensed), from 21s. per day.
Imperial Hotel, *Promenade*, from 18s. per day.
St. George's Hotel, *Promenade* (licensed), from 16s. 6d.* per day.
(* Subject to a special discount of 10 per cent.)
Marine Hotel, *Promenade* (licensed), from 16s. 6d. per day.
Queen's Hotel, *Promenade* (licensed), from 16s. 6d. per day.
The Hydro, *Neville Crescent, Promenade* (licensed), from 18s. per day.
Royal Hotel, *Church Walks, Promenade* (licensed), from 15s. per day.
Craigside Hotel, *Little Orme, Promenade* (licensed), from 15s. per day. (Free 'bus service to and from town.)
Clarence Hotel, *Gloddaeth Street* (licensed), from 15s. per day.
North Western Hotel, *Vaughan Street* (licensed), from 16s. 6d. per day.

Private Hotels (PH) and Boarding Houses (B)

GRAND PROMENADE:

North Parade—
The Links, from 12s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. per day.
Moseley, 10s. 6d. per day.
Claremont (B), from 10s. 6d. per day.
Knowsley (PH), from 11s. per day.
Belle Vue (PH), 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.
Waverley (PH), from £3 3s. per week.
Parade House, from 10s. 6d. per day.
Kensington (B), from 9s. 6d. per day.
Latimer (PH), from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.
Rothesay (PH), 11s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. per day.
Min-y-don (B), from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.

South Parade—
Clovelly (PH), from 10s. per day.
Merrion, 9s. to 10s. 6d. per day.
Wyecliffe (PH), 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.

Glanymor Terrace—
Brinkburn (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.
Egryn (PH), 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.

St. George's Crescent—
Elsinore (PH), from 11s. 6d. per day.
Trevone (B), from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per day.
White House (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.
Regent, 9s. per day.
Somerset (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.

Gloddaeth Crescent—
Toronto (PH), 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per day.
St. Kilda (B), 12s. per day.
Ingleboro (PH), 10s. 6d. and 11s. 6d. per day.

Deganwy Avenue—
Glencoign, 9s. to 10s. 6d. per day.

Neville Crescent—
Heath House (PH), from 7s. 6d. per day.
Seaforth (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.
Crescent (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.

Penrhyn Crescent—
Four Oaks (Temperance), from 12s. per day.
Sefton Gate (PH), from 10s. 6d. per day.
East Lynne (B), from 9s. per day.
Claremont, from 10s. per day.

Craig-y-don Parade—
The Craig-y-don, from 12s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. per day.
Ormescliffe, 13s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.

Trinity Square—
"San Remo," 9s. to 12s. 6d.

Abbey Road—
"Whitefriars," 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.

Rhos-on-Sea
(4 miles)

Rhos Abbey Hotel, from 16s. 6d. per day.

Colwyn Bay
(4 miles)

Colwyn Bay Hotel, from 23s. 6d. per day.

Conway
(4 miles)

Castle Hotel, from £5 5s. per week. (*En Pension* terms.)

NATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Golf Competition

VICTORIA VETERINARY BENEVOLENT FUND GOLF TROPHY

Committee.—Lieut.-Colonel P. J. Simpson, Maidenhead (Chairman), Major G. W. Dunkin (London), G. Howie, Esq. (Aberdeen), J. W. McIntosh, Esq. (London), Professor W. M. Mitchell (Edinburgh), Captain W. Shipley (Great Yarmouth), R. Simpson, Esq., F.R.C.V.S. (Whitehall Chambers, Lowther Street, Carlisle), Hon. Secretary.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1933 COMPETITION

The competition for the above trophy, which has been presented by Lieut.-Colonel P. J. Simpson, will be played this year in accordance with the procedure followed in 1932.

The competition is open to all members of the N.V.M.A., in Great Britain and Ireland, the trophy to be held by the winner for one year only, and is to be returned to the Secretary of the N.V.M.A. at least fourteen days before the opening of the Annual Congress in each year.

The winner will also receive a medal and a silver spoon will be presented to the runner-up.

All entry money received in connection with the competition will be devoted to the Benevolent Fund.

RULES FOR THE COMPETITION

The competition is to be played in two stages.

First Stage.—Entrance fee, 5s. Entries to be handed in to the Secretary of the member's Division. Arrangements for the first stage to be in the hands of the Secretary of the Division or his nominee in consultation, if necessary, with the Secretary of the Committee. The competition in the first stage is to be by match play. The handicap under which a member enters should be his lowest club handicap (limit handicap, 18), and must not be altered at any time during the first stage of the competition. The first stage of the competition must be completed by June 1st in each year.

In the event of the winner of the first stage not being able to compete in the final stage, the runner-up or any single representative of the Division may compete in his stead in the final stage, in order that the Division may be represented. Divisions will be entitled to enter one competitor for every 25 or part of 25 of their membership. A competitor can only represent one Division.

Names of competitors qualifying for the final stage are to be forwarded by Secretaries of Divisions to the Secretary of the Committee by July 1st in each year, together with entrance fees received for the first stage.

Second or Final Stage.—Entrance fee, 5s. The winners of the first (or Division) stage, will play off under medal play condition (handicap), on a date coinciding with the Annual Congress of the Association, such date to be announced later. The handicap allowed for the final stage of the competition will be the lowest handicap of the competitor, as at the date of the opening of the Annual Congress.

The winner to be the player who returns the lowest score under handicap. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be the player who returns the lowest score under handicap to the last nine holes. The Committee may require any competitor in the final stage to produce a handicap certificate.

Arrangements have been made provisionally for the final stage to be played at Llandudno on Thursday, September 21st.

LADIES' COMPETITION

A Ladies' Competition has been arranged to take place during the Congress Week, the date provisionally fixed being Thursday, September 21st.

Mrs. G. W. Dunkin has very kindly consented to present a trophy for annual competition. The winner of the competition will retain the trophy for one year, and it must be delivered up to the Secretary of the N.V.M.A. at least fourteen days prior to the opening of each Congress. A prize will also be presented to the player returning the best scratch score.

The competition will be open to all ladies attending the Congress. The entrance fee will be 3s. 6d. and all money received will be devoted to the Benevolent Fund.

The competitors will play off their L.G.U. handicap, and handicap certificates may be asked for.

The winner will be the player who returns the lowest score under handicap, and in the event of a tie, the winner shall be the player who returns the lowest score under handicap for the last nine holes.

HEAVY HORSE SCARCITY

When the annual meeting of the Crewe and District Shire Horse Society was held recently, the Chairman (Mr. A. Parton) discussed the prospects for the coming season, and said he hoped that breeders would realise there was a great scarcity of horses. In view of more land going under the plough, and the probability of increased taxation of heavy motor vehicles, horses would be required almost as much as ever. At what angle anyone would have to strike out to obtain, say, five or six young geldings ready to break to work he did not know, such was their scarcity.

No information was available as to whether the Ministry would renew the direct and assisted nomination grants to heavy horse breeding, particularly in regard to the small farmer, who was assisted by the grant with the payment of his nomination.

Review

[**"Stable Wise."** By Lieut.-Colonel Sidney G. Goldschmidt. Publishers, Christophers, 22, Berners Street, London, W.1. Price 7s. 6d.]

In the above book, which was first published in November, 1928, and reprinted and revised in September, 1929, Lieut.-Colonel Sidney Goldschmidt deals with his subject in a practical manner, and at the same time in language so simple as to bring it within the scope of any reader's understanding. It is well illustrated by J. McNeill with photographs and drawings from life (74 plates and figures). The book is a follow-on to his previous book "Bridle Wise," and it voices the principle of co-operation between master, groom and the horse, which makes for the better working life of the last, and adds to his comfort and health.

The preparation and procedure in respect to a newly-purchased hunter are carefully outlined; matters of rational feeding and watering are succinctly dealt with, and the necessary attention to horses both before and after the hunting day is clearly noted in the paraphrase of a practical groom.

What grooming and clipping mean to the horse, and the various expedients and utensils used for the purpose, are well enunciated, and the principles of shoeing are sufficient to indicate to the minds of readers the difference between good and bad shoeing.

The "stitch in time" policy in the handling of disease and ailment, and the necessity for calling in a veterinary practitioner when in doubt is clearly defined; though one may be justified in disagreeing with the use of neat Monsol as stated by a medical practitioner. All cresol derivatives are intended to be used in dilute solutions.

The chapter on summering hunters and wintering polo ponies is replete with good commonsense and words of warning. Saddlery and equipment are described with that practical detail which is an essential asset of knowledge to the horseman and horsewoman. The same may be said with regard to the chapter on stables and their design.

Summing up the duties of owners and grooms, Colonel Goldschmidt avers that the qualities for a man to cultivate if he wishes to excel as a good groom are: self-denial, keen observation and adaptability, patience, restraint and moral courage, a quiet manner, order and cleanliness, health, fitness, and temperate habits. Of the owner's share of responsibility, there is ever that necessity for intelligent supervision, and ability to assert his authority, and dictate the line of action when occasion demands: "The eye of the master makes the horse fat" is as true to-day as in the past.

We can highly recommend the book to our readers, and to the public in general.

Abstracts

[**I: Naturally-occurring Oriental Sore in the Domestic Cat in Iraq.** Machattie, C., Mills, E. A., and Chadwick, C. R. (1931). *Trans. Roy. Soc. Trop. Med. and Hyg.* Vol. 25, No. 2. pp. 103-106. 6 figs. on one plate. 3 refs.

II: The Rickenberg Reaction as an Aid to Diagnosis in Chronic and Aberrant types of Oriental Sore. Mills, E. A., Machattie, C., and Chadwick, C. R. (1931). *Trans. Roy. Soc. Trop. Med. and Hyg.* Vol. 25, No. 3. pp. 205-208. 1 ref.]

(I) *Lieshmania tropica* can be transmitted experimentally from man to rats, mice, cats, dogs and monkeys, but up to the time of the publication of this paper its natural occurrence had only been observed in man, dogs, and, on one occasion, in a bear. The authors here described instances of the natural occurrence of *L. tropica* in two cats; both animals showed typical oriental sores on the nose, and one also showed smaller sores on the ears and on one eyelid. Smears examined under the microscope showed numerous parasites, the character of the flagellate forms obtained from culture being indistinguishable from those of *L. tropica* from man and dogs. Careful search was also made for parasites in the spleen, liver and bone marrow, but none was found; a study of the histopathology of the sore did not reveal any essential difference from the appearance of similar lesions in man and in the dog. Attempts to infect mice with the strain of *L. tropica* isolated from one of these cats were not successful and as the authors found that strains of canine origin could easily be inoculated into mice by the identical method which had failed with the cat strain, setting up local tail lesions and also bone marrow and spleen infection, they consider it probable that the virulence of *L. tropica* is attenuated by passage through the cat.

(II) The second paper deals with the diagnosis of oriental sore. The demonstration of *L. tropica* in chronic and atypical lesions being very uncertain, the authors have tried a serological test known as the Rickenberg reaction and found it to be reliable, and suitable for use in areas where the disease is endemic. The test consists of the mixing of leptomonad forms of *L. tropica* from a young culture with a mixture of citrated bouillon and blood from the suspected case. In a positive reaction, the blood platelets are seen under the microscope to become attracted to the flagellates.

E. L. T.

XUM

[**Arrest of Development of Experimental Tuberculosis in Cattle by Vaccination with a Modified Strain of the Bovine Tubercle Bacillus.** Vaudremer, A., and Degois, E. (1932). *Rec. Méd. Vét.* 108. 609-619.]

The object of this investigation was the estimation of the immunising value of a peculiar mutant of the tubercle bacillus which has previously been described by one of the authors (A. V.). A virulent strain of the tubercle bacillus when treated with a filtered extract of *Aspergillus fumigatus*, loses its acid-fast characteristics, and becomes readily cultivatable on ordinary agar.

In the first experiment, a bovine strain modified in this manner was emulsified in normal saline solution and killed by heating to 56° C. for half-an-hour. Several calves were inoculated intravenously with this vaccine. All the animals presented symptoms of an acute toxæmia and two succumbed within a few minutes: the survivors possessed no immunity against a test dose. In a second experiment six calves, which had not reacted to a tuberculin test, were vaccinated with a living emulsion of the same strain. Three animals were inoculated subcutaneously, and three by the intravenous route (20·0 c.c. and 10·0 c.c. respectively—strength of the emulsion not specified) and the doses repeated 18 days later. Intradermal tuberculin tests applied to these calves and to two controls 47 days after the second vaccination were entirely negative.

Two days later each animal received an intravenous injection of 4 milligrammes of a virulent bovine culture isolated from the calves used in the first experiment. After a lapse of seven months, the controls were killed and presented moderate caseo-calcareous lesions confined to the thoracic lymphatic glands, while two vaccinated animals (one by each route) were similarly affected, although the lesions were more discrete. The remaining animals were sacrificed 353 days after infection and in them the lesions were very slight. The lymphatic glands were slightly enlarged and sclerotic; some contained small tuberculous lesions, but these appeared to be in a stage of resolution. The inoculation of guinea-pigs with emulsions of selected glands clearly showed, however, that they still contained living and fully virulent tubercle bacilli.

The authors are of the opinion that the immunity which is engendered by their vaccine, is sufficiently powerful to prevent the extension of a tuberculous infection, and may sometimes induce a complete recovery. The fact that vaccinated animals are not rendered allergic is regarded as an added advantage.

N.V.M.A. Divisional Report

YORKSHIRE DIVISION*

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS AT LEEDS

A General Meeting of this Division was held at the Hotel Metropole, Leeds, on Friday, January 27th, 1933. The President, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Dixon, was in the chair and fourteen members were present, together with Major Southall, R.A.V.C., as a visitor.

Correspondence.

Following the adoption of the minutes, the Secretary introduced the correspondence for the consideration of the meeting. As a result of a letter from the National Horse Association, on the proposition of Mr. Procter, seconded by Mr. Campbell, it was decided that the Division should enrol as a member of that Association. It was agreed to ask the President and Mr. D. S. Rabagliati to act as delegates of the Division at the annual congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Blackpool in June, 1933.

A letter from the General Secretary of the N.V.M.A. regarding canine nurses, which had been deferred at the last General Meeting, was again considered. The recommendations of the Council in regard to this matter were put before the meeting and it was decided that a copy of these recommendations be forwarded to the N.V.M.A.

A letter was read from Sir Frederick Hobday, acknowledging the congratulatory letter which had been sent to him from the Division on the occasion of his receiving the honour of a knighthood.

A letter intimating his resignation from the Division was read from Mr. D. Hamilton and the Secretary was instructed to write and ask him to reconsider his decision.

In response to a request from the N.V.M.A. that a Divisional Representative of the *Veterinary Record* be appointed, Colonel Dixon proposed and Mr. S. E. Sampson seconded that Mr. F. C. Scott be asked to act in this capacity for the Division.

Nomination.—Mr. S. B. Vine, on behalf of Mr. D. S. Rabagliati, nominated Mr. E. G. Duncan for membership of the Division.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Dixon then read his Presidential Address, as follows:—

At the outset I should like to take this opportunity of expressing, more adequately, my thanks to the Society for the honour they have conferred upon me in electing me to the Presidential chair for a second year. It is recognised that the honour is the highest within the gift of the

* Received for publication February 7th.

Society, and is not lightly conferred, and whilst expressing my thanks in turn to the officers, the Council, and the members of the Society for the great support they have given me during the past year, I have no doubt that such invaluable help will be maintained and that the progress of the Society, and veterinary science which we represent, will be more marked in the forthcoming year.

It was suggested by me that there was no need to inflict a further Presidential Address on the Society, but as the desire for such was widely expressed, under these circumstances perhaps it will be some compensation to hearers if I say now that although such a course is unusual, in accordance with an expressed desire, I should be very happy if my observations were made the subject of discussion on the part of the members present.

It will not be surprising if this address deals to some extent with a review of the work of the Society during the past year, and the lessons to be learned therefrom for our future progress. It will doubtless be remembered that, a year ago, I put forward certain suggestions for the development and co-ordination of veterinary effort in various directions, which it was considered would be in the public welfare, and, although not claiming the operation of cause and effect, it is notable that similar suggestions have, during the year, been forthcoming from other sources.

The subject of meat inspection, although not directly mentioned, has come within the purview of some of the higher authorities. Quite recently, there came from official sources certain suggestions for the improvement of the livestock industry, which, if adopted, would have a very profound influence on the meat industry and, in turn, upon meat inspection. The suggestion particularly referred to, is the one that the livestock industry would be benefited by the establishment of what may be described as regional abattoirs throughout the country to which food animals could be sent for slaughter and utilisation as required. This official suggestion is in complete accord with the suggestion of the regional administration of food inspection, as compared with the purely local administration of that matter, and it is maintained that, if and when such regional abattoirs are set up, the best qualified person for their management in every detail, and for the inspection and subsequent handling of all the meat products, is the fully-trained veterinary surgeon. Imagine such an establishment receiving hundreds of food animals every week of the year. Is there anyone to compare with the veterinary surgeon to supervise their reception and lairage, whilst in the slaughterhouse? The veterinary surgeon's claim for superiority cannot be challenged. The subsequent handling of the meat products either *via* the cold stores or direct, and the waste products, is similarly a veterinary duty if the country at large is to be preserved from the spread of contagious animal diseases, and the veterinary profession, as represented by its organisations and leaders, should spare no effort to secure the proper recognition of veterinary surgeons in these capacities. It may be argued that whilst veterinary surgeons are the proper men to be charged with the inspection of live animals and their carcasses, the management and control of such establishments could with greater advantage be placed in the hands of laymen, but there are many instances where veterinary surgeons have proceeded beyond their strictly professional responsibilities and have undertaken the business management of such establishments with conspicuous success. Experience has taught us that divided responsibility is not satisfactory, for it would appear to be accepted that none but medical men are fitted to be in supreme charge of hospitals, and during the war did not veterinary surgeons, even those without previous military training, develop and show great administrative powers in veterinary hospitals? I would go even further and claim that the veterinary surgeon, with training and experience in meat inspection, is quite capable of grading and marking animal carcasses, and that in abattoirs under veterinary supervision and inspection, the grading and marking of carcasses under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act could be carried out by veterinary inspectors and thus eliminate the considerable expense at present undertaken by a Government Department which takes no official interest in meat inspection.

During the year one of our colleagues made some remarks on a public occasion regarding the status and training of meat inspectors, which remarks have been much criticised by certain interested parties, but whilst we may safely leave our colleague to defend his point of view, those concerned with the teaching of veterinary surgeons should pay serious attention to those branches of the science concerned with food inspection.

The diseases of poultry now receive greater attention and, whilst doubtless the diseases of poultry are of interest to veterinary practitioners, it is considered that they are of greater interest to those concerned with the inspection of food supplies, and these diseases, together with the diseases, parasitic and otherwise, of fish, should be thoroughly studied by veterinary surgeons who, by their training in biology, pathology, bacteriology, protozoology and parasitology are pre-eminently fitted for this subject and for the elucidation of the problems they present.

On the other important aspect of veterinary supervision, namely, the inspection of dairy cattle and the supervision of the public's milk supply, progress has been maintained, several counties having proceeded to the appointment of

whole-time veterinary inspectors, and in this connection reference may be made to an article in *The Yorkshire Post* of December 2nd. last in which, amongst other things, it was urged that every county should be called upon to establish a veterinary service for the inspection of cattle, and that the whole should be co-ordinated so as to set up a State Veterinary Service, which the article demanded. From more recent events there is good reason to believe that we are on the eve of great developments in this direction and that one result will be a much more extended employment of veterinary surgeons and inspectors.... From the trend of events I have no doubt that such a service will be established and at no very distant date, and when established the next move should be to make use of that veterinary service in meat inspection as well as in milk supervision. Adoption of the other part of my original suggestion, namely, the co-ordination of the veterinary control of animal diseases with the other branches of public veterinary practice, will, I think, be inevitable if the schemes for improved meat inspection and milk supervision come into operation. The country would be supplied with a complete veterinary organisation to which the control of animal diseases could be added by a very simple administrative procedure, but from the foregoing it will be seen immediately that the whole subject of the supervision of animals and their respective products is properly within the province of the Agricultural Department and no other Department of the Central Government. In this or any other assembly of veterinary surgeons, it may be objected that such a scheme would leave very little for the general practitioner, but I believe that such a scheme would create a greatly increased demand for the services of the practitioner as well as the inspector, for it is inevitable that practitioners will play a large part in the campaign to improve the health of cattle.

Recently, and particularly within the last year, the pasteurisation of milk has been advocated from many influential quarters, and although those of us who are public health officers may admit that it is desirable that some milk supplies should be pasteurised, such a procedure is to be regarded as a retrograde step. Every effort has been made to combat this campaign for what is practically universal pasteurisation. Those efforts will be maintained, and as a result it is considered that the services of veterinary practitioners will be much more required by stock owners. Cattle will become more valuable and better looked after and with a return of public confidence in the milk supply, the milk industry may be expected to expand enormously to bring the consumption of milk up to the average level observed in other countries. Food animals would become more valuable, and it would be more important from the owner's point of view that they should be maintained in good health, whilst with the agricultural industry in a more prosperous condition horses will be more valuable and those classes of horses and dogs kept for sport and pleasure will be more numerous and more cared for.

One important interest of the Society during the past year has been the organisation of satisfactory provision for the treatment of sick and injured animals of poor people, and although our efforts, together with the R.S.P.C.A., have not met with that full measure of fruition for which we had hoped, much progress has been made. Satisfactory arrangements have been made in some towns and districts, whilst in others the ground has been prepared, and we are hoping for a satisfactory issue to our efforts in the near future. In this connection some opposition has been met from the general public, but such opposition has afforded opportunities for us to impress upon certain sections of the public the need for the services of properly qualified veterinary surgeons in the treatment of sick animals of poor people, as for those in better circumstances.

In conclusion, I must thank you for a patient hearing of an address on a subject which I fear, although of the greatest interest to myself and my colleagues in the public service, may be found somewhat dry for our professional brethren.

At the termination of his address, the President expressed the wish that members should take an opportunity of discussing it. Colonel Bowes, Messrs. Procter and Sharp took part in the discussion, in the course of which current tendencies and events in the administration of meat inspection were mentioned. Regret was expressed that too little appeared to be attempted by the profession in furthering the claims and rights of its members to proper recognition. Recent instances were cited in which public abattoirs had been opened in large cities and laymen had been appointed to whole-time posts in charge of meat inspection administration. The feeling of the meeting was that some professional action was necessary whereby appropriate protests might be made and conveyed to the proper channels. It was decided that a letter drawing attention to this subject should be sent to the N.V.M.A. and the drawing up of this letter was left in the hands of the President and Secretary.

On the proposition of Lieut.-Colonel Bowes, seconded by Mr. Procter, a vote of thanks was accorded to Lieut.-Colonel Dixon for his address.

Paper.—Mr. F. C. Scott then read a paper entitled "Recumbency in Horses and Cattle," following which a discussion took place, in which Lieut.-Colonel Bowes, and Messrs. Campbell, Procter, Watson, Sharp, Hayes and Gillespie took part..

[Mr. Scott's paper is reproduced at the commencement of this issue.—Ed. *V.R.*]

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. A. H. Watson and seconded by Mr. Procter.

S. Sharp, *Hon. Secretary.*

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IN PARLIAMENT

The following questions and answers have been recorded in the House of Commons recently:—

Foot-and-Mouth Disease

Brigadier-General Brown asked the Minister of Agriculture whether he is aware that during the recent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease round Reading, travellers from various firms visited farms to sell their disinfectants or other wares, no steps being taken to stop them spreading infection from one farm to another; and whether, in any future outbreaks, notices at all infected farms will be put up forbidding any traders on the premises?

Major Elliot: I am aware that complaints have been made to the effect stated in the first part of the question. Under the provisions of Section 13 of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, if an occupier in an infected area has affixed a notice to his premises forbidding entry therein without permission, any person not having by law a right of entry and entering without such permission is guilty of an offence against the Act. These provisions have been brought to the notice of the Berkshire Branch of the National Farmers' Union. As regards the last part of the question, a rule made under the Foot-and-Mouth Order, 1928, prohibits under penalty the entry into an infected place of any persons other than an inspector of the Ministry without the prior written authority of the inspector, and posters warning the public to this effect are exhibited at the entrance to all infected places.

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Food and Drugs Adulteration Act

Brigadier-General Clifton Brown asked the Minister of Health whether his attention has been called to the comments in the Report of the Milk Reorganisation Committee on the unfairness of the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928, to the milk producer; and whether he will now consider legislation to amend that Act by distinguishing between the wilful adulterator and persons who act in complete good faith?

Sir H. Young: I am aware of the comments referred to. This matter will be considered in conjunction with my right hon. Friend, the Minister of Agriculture, in the light of the recommendations of the Commission as a whole.

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India (Army Officers and Officials)

Major General Sir Alfred Knox asked the Secretary of State for India whether, taking into consideration the burden imposed upon officers of the Army and Imperial Services in India by import duties on articles of European food and clothing, he will suggest to the Government of India the adoption of the system in vogue in the French colonial empire, where French colonial employees are permitted to import such articles for their own consumption duty free?

The Under-Secretary of State for India (Mr. Butler): My right hon. friend is sorry that he cannot accept my hon. and gallant friend's suggestion.

Sir A. Knox: Surely it would be possible, as this concession would mean very little to the revenue of the Government of India, to help these people who are struggling in very hard circumstances?

Mr. Butler: I feel sure that, if my hon. and gallant friend were to take the circumstances of these officials into consideration, he would find it very difficult to differentiate between their circumstances and the rest of the community.

Mr. Mabane: Seeing that the import duties have caused a reduction in the price of food, would not the adoption of this suggestion be a hardship on the officers?

Notes and News

The Editor will be glad to receive items of professional interest for inclusion in these columns.

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DIARY OF EVENTS

Mar. 10th.—Annual Dinner and Dance of the Yorkshire Division, N.V.M.A., at Leeds.

Mar. 10th.—Meeting of the Midland Counties Division, N.V.M.A., at Birmingham.

Mar. 11th.—Annual Meeting of the North of England Division, N.V.M.A., at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Mar. 13th.—Meeting of the Editorial Committee, N.V.M.A., at 2, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1, at 4.30 p.m.

Mar. 15th.—Annual Meeting of the Lancashire Division, N.V.M.A., at Manchester.

Mar. 16th.—Annual Meeting of the Western Counties Division, N.V.M.A., at Exeter.

Mar. 24th. — Complimentary Dinner to Sir Frederick Hobday, Mayfair Hotel, W.

Mar. 28th.—Meeting of the North Midland Division, N.V.M.A., at Sheffield.

Mar. 31st.—Annual Meeting of the Southern Counties Division, N.V.M.A., at Southampton.

April 1st.—R.C.V.S. Annual Fees due.

April 5th.—R.C.V.S. Committee Meetings.

April 6th.—**R.C.V.S. Annual Dinner,** Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets price 12s. 6d.

April 6th.—R.C.V.S. Committee Meetings.

April 7th.—R.C.V.S. Council and Committee Meetings.

Sept. 18th-23rd.—N.V.M.A. Congress, Llandudno.

PERSONAL

At the investiture held by H.M. the King at Buckingham Palace on Friday of last week, Professor Frederick Hobday was amongst those gentlemen upon whom His Majesty conferred the honour of Knighthood.

The introductions into His Majesty's presence were made by the Right Hon. Sir John Gilmour, Bt., M.P. (Secretary of State for the Home Department).

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At the meeting of the Committee of the Kennel Club held on February 7th, 1933, Mr. A. Cornish-Bowden, M.R.C.V.S., was appointed Hon. Veterinary Surgeon to the Kennel Club, in succession to the late Mr. A. J. Sewell, M.R.C.V.S.

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SOUTH AFRICAN VETERINARY AUTOGRAPHS

We have been favoured by Dr. H. H. Curson, Onderstepoort, with a composite photograph showing the autographs of 85 veterinarians, two medical men and one lay assistant who, at one time or another, have been prominent in the veterinary history of South Africa. Most were collected from papers of no particular value, but the signatures themselves are interesting, especially those of pioneers such as Dr. D. Livingstone, S. Wiltshire, D. Hutcheon and Sir Frederick Smith, none of whom, unfortunately, survives.

Other autographs worthy of particular mention are those of J. D. Borthwick, the late Dr. A. Edington, C. E. Gray, J. Irvine-Smith, the late R. E. Montgomery, Sir J. Moore, the late W. Robertson, J. Spreull, Sir Arnold Theiler and H. Watkins Pitchford.

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ARMY VETERINARY SERVICE

Movements of Officers

Major E. S. W. Peatt, O.B.E., F.R.C.V.S., sailed for Gibraltar on January 13th, for a full tour of duty abroad.

Major R. H. Stalker was posted from Woolwich to Shorncliffe for duty on January 18th.

Major G. F. Steevenson sailed for India on February 4th, for a full tour of duty abroad.

Major C. H. S. Townsend, O.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.V.S., has arrived home from Gibraltar and is now doing duty as Instructor at the Equitation School, Weedon, with effect from February 4th.

Major G. W. Godwin, who has had a long spell of ill-health, has been pronounced fit for General Duty. He joined at Portsmouth for duty on February 18th.

Major H. Stephenson, M.C., sailed for India on February 21st, for a full tour of duty abroad.

Captain H. Jerrom, who is at present on leave *ex* India, joins at Tidworth for duty on March 7th.

Captain E. O'Kelly is at present on leave from India.

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London Gazette — War Office — Territorial Army

Feb. 3.—Maj. R. R. Dalling vacates the appointment of D.A.D.V.S. of a Div. (Jan. 1).

Regular Army

Establishments

February 21st.—Maj. H. Stephenson, M.C., R.A.V.C., relinquishes the appt. of Instr. Equitn. Sch. (Feb. 4).

Maj. C. H. S. Townsend, O.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.V.S., R.A.V.C., is appointed to be Instr., Equitn. Sch. (Feb. 4).

R.C.V.S. OBITUARY

Wilkinson, Henry Etridge, Martham, near Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk. Graduated Edinburgh, April 25th, 1885. Died February 23rd, 1933, aged 70 years.

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THE LATE LORD LOVAT

The Royal Veterinary College, and indeed the whole veterinary profession, have lost a great friend by the death of the Lord Lovat, K.T., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O. This is especially in our minds at the present time, when the erection of the first of the new buildings of the Royal Veterinary College is so near completion, for it was owing to the official visit (at the invitation of the Principal of the College) of Lord Lovat (as Chairman) and a Deputation of the Committee of the Colonial Veterinary Services Organisation Committee, that the Government Departmental Committee (the Report of which initiated the commencement of the rebuilding of the College) was set up. The remarks of the members of the Committee at the time as to the appalling and disgraceful conditions under which the College work had to be carried on were emphatically expressed and are briefly summarised in the sentence: "We do not hesitate to say that we were dismayed by what we saw." The date of their visit was a fortunate one for the College, and the late Lord Lovat's interest and influence were used to the utmost until the matter was safely placed in the hands of the Government Departmental Committee, whose findings have now received sufficient support to enable the rebuilding scheme to be satisfactorily launched.

A man of great courtesy and kindly character, and with a disposition ever ready "to right the wrong," Lord Lovat will always be remembered as one of those who, being in a position to help veterinary science, did so at a time when the oldest of its teaching Colleges was on the verge of bankruptcy and probable extinction.

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LADIES' VETERINARY BENEVOLENT GUILD

The first steps in the formation of a branch of the Guild in Aberdeen and the North of Scotland were taken on January 28th, when a meeting of ladies interested was held at 56, Polmuir Road, Aberdeen, where Mrs. Drennan had kindly lent her drawing room for the purpose.

Those present included Mrs. Beattie, Longside; Mrs. Cumming, Culter; Mrs. Lyon, Banff. Miss Sievwright, Tarland; Mrs. Moir, Mrs. Howie, and Mrs. Drennan, Aberdeen.

Apologies for absence were received from many ladies who, on account of illness, or the state of the roads, were unable to attend.

Correspondence was read from Mrs. McGregor, Vice-President of the Guild in Scotland, and it was resolved to form a local branch, Mrs. Howie undertaking the duties of Honorary Secretary.

It was decided to have another meeting during the summer, when a larger attendance could be expected.

Tea was then served, and Mrs. Drennan was thanked for her hospitality.

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SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS

This Society, which was founded in 1920 for the purpose of bringing together the trained and skilled workers in the science and art of radio-

graphy, has elected Mr. C. W. Furby as its President for 1933. Mr. Furby who, in conjunction with Mr. H. J. Ede, holds the position of Honorary Radiographer to the Royal Veterinary College, is very popular with both staff and students and has a large *clientèle* amongst members of the veterinary profession.

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FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

The existence of foot-and-mouth disease was confirmed on Monday among cattle on premises in the parish of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

The area subject to restriction of movement of animals lies in the counties of Bedford, Berks., Buckingham, Hertford, Middlesex, and Oxford, and includes the existing infected areas surrounding the infected premises at Waddesdon, Wingrave, and Drayton Beauchamp in Buckinghamshire.

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NATIONAL GREYHOUND RACING SOCIETY

The above Society have issued, from 39, Jermyn Street, S.W.1, a brochure giving the official statistics of the fifty affiliated greyhound racecourses, and which are licensed by the National Greyhound Racing Club. Attendances during 1932 totalled 20,178,260—an increase on 1931 of over two millions.

The prize money paid to owners of greyhounds, exclusive of stakes and the value of trophies, was £388,463, while the sum of nearly £18,000 was paid to charities.

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VETERINARY INSPECTION IN ESSEX

Whether a full-time veterinary inspector of dairy herds should be appointed in Essex was discussed at a recent meeting of the Diseases of Animals' Sub-Committee of the Essex Agricultural Committee. The Sub-Committee had been invited to confer with the Sanitary and Health Sub-Committee of the County Public Health and Housing Committee, and the Agricultural Education Sub-Committee, on the question of the joint appointment of a veterinary surgeon.

Mr. Douglas B. Smith, speaking on behalf of the Essex Milk Recording Society, said he hoped the suggestion would be taken up. The Clerk, Mr. J. H. Goold, pointed out that they already took samples of milk and subjected them to the guinea-pig test. In regard to periodical inspections, he said a herd might be examined on a particular date and found to be free from tuberculosis, and a few weeks later some of the animals might have the disease. Cases of tuberculosis had been found on Grade A farms between the periodical inspections.

Mr. John Garton remarked that a veterinary surgeon could not detect all diseased cows, but on the other hand, the guinea-pig test with milk was a very slow business, because, when tuberculosis was found in the milk, they then had to trace the cow from which it came. Other counties were appointing veterinary inspectors, and it was one of the recommendations of the Milk Reorganisation Committee.

Mr. W. Hasler said a large body of medical opinion was in favour of pasteurised milk, but clean milk as it came from the cow was worth much more than pasteurised milk.

A resolution in favour of the appointment of a whole-time veterinary inspector for the county was carried.

DISPENSARY DEVELOPMENT IN LEEDS

The *Yorkshire Post* reports that the Leeds Branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, under the chairmanship of Mr. Gervase Ford, have opened a more extensive dispensary for sick and injured animals at No. 128, North Street, Leeds, which is a distinct improvement on the old premises in Darley Street.

With the co-operation of the Yorkshire Veterinary Medical Society, whose Leeds members will provide professional advice and attention for the ailing animals of people unable to afford the usual fee to a veterinary surgeon, the R.S.P.C.A. have equipped on up-to-date lines an animal dispensary to which animals may be brought for attention any evening during the week and on Saturday afternoons. Professional advice will be given and medicines and dressings supplied for "out-patients," whilst arrangements are being made for those requiring hospital treatment.

At the same address the Society have provided a home for stray cats, and an appeal is now made for public support for these praiseworthy objects. Small collecting boxes have been placed in branch Post Offices for the reception of donations.

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ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE

The Royal Sanitary Institute will hold a Sessional Meeting in conjunction with the Yorkshire Branch of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, in the Winter Gardens, Royal Baths, Harrogate, on Friday, March 17th, commencing at 4.30 p.m. After a reception by the Mayor of Harrogate, there will be discussions on "The Problem of Bacillary Dysentery," to be opened by Dr. J. A. Charles, Medical Officer of Health, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and on "Food Inspection from the Administrative Aspect," to be opened by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Dixon, T.D., M.R.C.V.S., Chief Veterinary Officer, Leeds.

On Saturday, March 18th, visits will be made to the Harrogate and District General Hospital, to a controlled tip, to the Royal Baths, and to the new Municipal Offices.

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NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

The Hon. Henry H. S. T. Tufton, presiding at the Council Meeting of the National Pony Society on Friday, February 3rd, proposed the election of 13 new members, and intimated that the Marquis of Cholmondeley had accepted an invitation to be President-elect (*i.e.*, President in 1934), thus following Sir Ian Walker, Bart., in the chair.

Considerable satisfaction was expressed at the excellent entry received for the National Pony Show, held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, on March 3rd and 4th, inasmuch as 50 more entries had been received this year compared with the last Show.

The offer of a Silver Medal from the National Horse Breeding and Show Society of India was accepted, and was awarded to the pony selected as reserve for the Cup presented by the President for the best polo-bred pony in the show.

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HORSE SOCIETIES' FUTURE SHOWS

Representatives of the Shire Horse Society, Hunters' Improvement Society, and National Pony Society met at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Thursday to discuss the feasibility of the three societies combining to hold their shows in one week. At present the three shows occupy the Hall for two weeks, and the rent in these days is found to constitute a heavy burden.

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INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOWS, LTD.

A decision (which, because presumably inevitable, is all the more to be lamented by horse lovers) to wind up voluntarily International Horse Shows, Limited, was arrived at at an extraordinary general meeting of the company held on Monday of last week. An official statement issued after the meeting declared: "Despite the fact that last year's show resulted in a financial loss, it was in many other respects one of the most successful and attractive of the long series of shows held by the company. The number of attendances was 9,095 greater in 1932 than in 1931, an increase of about 23 per cent. Although the seating accommodation was reduced in price the total sum payable by way of entertainments tax was 52 per cent. more than in 1931, and it has to be borne in mind that the show was held during a time of depression which adversely affected all high-class productions.

"On account of the undoubted value of the show to the horse-breeding industry and the great amount of employment which it affords, both directly and indirectly, efforts are being made by various sportsmen to arrange for the production of a similar show during the coming summer. Should these efforts prove successful, which seems likely, the new show would be held on a no less ambitious scale than last year.

"At the termination of the meeting a hearty vote of gratitude and thanks was unanimously carried to Lord Lonsdale, Mr. R. G. Heaton, and the other directors for the great amount of work they had done in connection with the shows."

The first International Horse Show was held at Olympia in 1907, and during the early years the shows received considerable support in this country and abroad. Notable among its early patrons were the late Sir Walter Winans and the late Judge W. H. Moore, of New York.

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LIGHT HORSE BREEDING

Lord Digby on Loss of Government Grant

Lord Digby, president-elect, speaking at a luncheon held in connection with the 49th annual show of the Hunters' Improvement and National Horse Breeding Society, said the Thoroughbred and Hunter Show was part of a great national light horse breeding scheme that the Government had sponsored for the last 22 years. He thought, therefore, it was important that he should emphasise the present critical position of the light horse breeding industry in this country resulting from the complete withdrawal of the Government grant for King's Premium Stallions this year. The light horse breeding scheme was administered by the Ministry of Agriculture from 1911-24, when it was taken over by the War Office, the annual grant being approximately £30,000. This was withdrawn at the end of 1931, and on strong representations by the Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society a grant of £8,000 was given last year. This year not even the greatly reduced grant was forthcoming. The Minister of Agriculture was approached by the society and a strong case was put forward through a deputation in November last, but owing to the strict economy which had been mapped out for all Government Departments, and the necessity for the reduction of estimates, the Minister found it impossible to include a grant for light horse breeding this year. It was hoped that the Government would soon realise the short-sighted policy of curtailing so valuable an asset as a sound light horse breeding scheme, one upon which a very large sum of money had already been spent and which must be of inestimable benefit to the agriculturist and to the War Office, in addition to the amount of employment given either directly or indirectly in the country districts.

The Hunters' Improvement Society Council decided that, as it was a national necessity that light horse breeding should be carried on, a grant of about 50 premiums of £50 should be awarded this year for thoroughbred stallions to travel in the districts which produced the most suitable mares to the premium horse last year, the expense, estimated at about £3,000, to be met from the society's limited reserve funds. It was obvious that the funds of the society could not stand the strain of such a sum for long, and it was hoped that a satisfactory new scheme would be devised, and that even if the Government, owing to continued economies, were unable to give the full amount that they had in the past, they would at least contribute a proportion of the amount necessary to keep such an excellent scheme going in years to come, with possible financial co-operation from the county agricultural and horse breeding societies throughout the country.

Several of the county agricultural societies had come forward splendidly to the lead given by the Hunters' Improvement Society and additional grants and premiums had been given.

The entries for all the classes at the Show were above the average.

He hoped that he had sufficiently emphasised the precarious position of the future of the light horse breeding industry in this country resulting from the complete withdrawal of the Government grant.

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VETERINARIAN'S SUCCESSFUL CLAIM AGAINST THE COUNTESS OF BRADFORD

Judgment was given against the Countess of Bradford, of Western Park, Shifnal, Shropshire, in an action (heard on February 21st) brought against her in York County Court by John William Procter, veterinary surgeon, of York, who sued the Countess for £8 8s. for professional services to a three-year-old filly, of which she was the owner, and which was trained by W. Hammett at Beverley in August, 1930.

The Deputy Judge (Mr. R. Watson) also dismissed a counter-claim for damages resulting through the alleged negligence of Mr. Procter in not properly diagnosing the complaint from which the filly was suffering.

Mr. Procter said that at the request of Mr. Hammett, the Beverley trainer, he went to Beverley and examined the filly, Lindina. He applied the stomach pump treatment, after having tested the horse and finding red worm. He repeated the treatment on August 18th.

In reply to Deputy Judge Watson, Mr. Procter said there were no external signs of tuberculosis in August. It was possible that the filly had the disease but that it was in a dormant condition.

Mr. William Hammett, giving evidence, said that after the race at Leicester in November Lady Bradford complained that she would not have known the filly if it had not been for its clothing. As a matter of fact, it was in just as good condition at Leicester as the day he received it at Beverley.

Professor G. H. Wooldridge, F.R.C.V.S., Royal Veterinary College, said that tuberculosis was a comparatively rare form of disease in horses. It might be present without the slightest sus-

picion of its existence. Having diagnosed worm, the proper thing, in his opinion, was to treat for it, and not waste time diagnosing for something else. If the filly did not respond, it would then be necessary to test for other complaints. In his opinion, Mr. Procter carried out a perfectly scientific procedure both in regard to diagnosis and treatment.

Mr. William Woods, F.R.C.V.S., of Wigan, and Mr. H. W. Brekke, veterinary surgeon, Malton, gave similar evidence.

The Countess of Bradford, in evidence, said that when she saw the filly at Leicester she was horrified. She ordered it to be sent straight home. It was an unprecedented thing to take a horse out of a trainer's hands on a racecourse, but she was so disgusted at running a horse in that condition.

James Martin, M.R.C.V.S., of Vauxhall, Newport, said with the history of the filly he had, he would, in August, 1930, have examined for tuberculosis. In the *post-mortem* examination in March, 1931, he found an advanced state of tuberculous lesions, which were of more than four or five months' standing.

Thomas Wilson, M.R.C.V.S., of Nantwich, said that if he had seen the filly in the condition in which Mr. Procter described it in August, he would have taken its temperature.

Giving judgment, the Deputy Judge said he could well understand the motive that lay behind Lady Bradford's desire to have the facts probed and examined in view of her affection for horses.

As the case was one of supreme importance to a professional man, against whom a charge of want of care or skill was raised, he desired to make it clear there was no justification for any such charge, and in his opinion the allegations of negligence and incompetence failed completely.

He was quite satisfied from the evidence that Mr. Procter adopted a perfectly correct scientific procedure both in regard to his diagnosis and treatment.

[As a member of the National Veterinary Benevolent and Mutual Defence Society, Mr. Procter was assisted by that society in this case.]

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"HOW THE VETERINARY ADVISER CAN HELP THE FARMER"

Under the above heading, *The Kentish Gazette and Canterbury Press* of February 25th, 1933, publishes the following report of addresses given by Mr. A. D. McEwen, M.R.C.V.S., and Mr. R. S. Roberts, M.R.C.V.S., of the South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, at a meeting of the Canterbury Farmers' Club and East Kent Chamber of Agriculture held on February 18th, when they lectured on the work of the veterinary advisory service.

"Mr. A. D. McEwen said: The work of the field veterinary service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is concerned with diseases mentioned in the Diseases of Animals Act, *i.e.*, cattle plague or rinderpest, contagious pleuro-pneumonia, sheep pox, epizoötic lymphangitis, glanders and farcy, rabies, anthrax, parasitic mange of equines, sheep scab, swine fever, foot-and-mouth disease, and also tuberculosis and contagious abortion.

"Foot-and-mouth disease, when it appears, is of great importance, and its control requires the vigilance and may at times demand the united efforts of the whole of the Ministry's staff. Swine fever is present to some extent more or less continually, and constitutes a steady source of employment for the Ministry's veterinarians.

"Excluding the work of the veterinary inspectors of the Ministry, the counties and the municipalities and the institutes and laboratories, the veterinary work is carried out by the large number of private veterinary practitioners distributed throughout the country and contributing a most valuable and indispensable service, but being forced through changing customs and economic pressure to devote more and ever-increasing attention to the animals we call pets, and if we wish to maintain for our farm animals, as is essential, the services of the large number of qualified veterinarians, the time may not be far distant when some system of endowment or subsidy for general veterinary services will be required, particularly with regard to those services whose aim is the control and prevention of contagious diseases, and it is in the control of contagious diseases that it is essential that progress should be made.

"We have now come to the point where we may consider the Veterinary Advisory Service—a small service, 11 individuals in all—attached to the colleges and universities throughout England and Wales, and we find them being introduced as yet another unit into the very disjointed veterinary services of the country, each service working largely in its own watertight compartment and with little effective system of exchange of information, correlation of knowledge, or co-operation in efforts to prevent disease, so that at the present day we have but inaccurate information concerning the incidence of many of the most important diseases of our farm animals and are devoid of uniform plans for the suppression of these diseases.

"The veterinary advisory officers do not encroach on the work of the Ministry or county inspectors, and they may not undertake work regarded as within the province of the private practitioner. It may be suggested that their position is to act as liaison officers between the research institutes and the field, but in the absence of effective plans for the control of disease there is little scope for liaison work.

"There is no doubt that in many matters the veterinary advisor might instruct and aid the farmer, but there are two factors mitigating against effective work of this type—first the stupendous size of the district allotted to each advisor, secondly the fact that as a member of the veterinary profession he may not impinge upon the province of another, and consequently the veterinary advisor is shut off from direct contact with the farmer except on matters where the farmer does not and would not be expected to employ a veterinary surgeon.

"Therefore at present the veterinary officer must seek a 'no man's land' for his activities, and because he has a small grant sufficient to cover a few primary laboratory requirements he may even now find himself filling a useful niche. For example, the work of the Veterinary Department of the South Eastern Agricultural College has during the past three years elucidated two obscure diseases of sheep on the Romney Marsh and methods for their prevention, thereby adding materially to the knowledge of a group of diseases of great importance because of the almost world-wide distribution of diseases of this kind.

"During the past two-and-a-half years research on and control of contagious abortion has progressed, and at the same time investigations on diseases of other classes of farm stock have been carried out, and from information supplied by

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these investigations it has often been possible to guide or instruct the farmer in the soundest possible method of procedure. None of this work would have been possible without the laboratory, and it means the use of large quantities of material which can only be supplied by trained laboratory assistants whose work includes the skilled preparation of culture material for the growth of micro-organisms, the preparation of delicate sections of animal tissue for microscopical examination, the testing of samples of blood for evidence of infection with disease, the preparation and sterilisation of glass-ware, the care of laboratory and experimental animals, etc.

"Now what is the ideal of a veterinary advisory service? My ideal is to have in every area of sufficient size, and this may be the size of the average county, a veterinary service as an integral and important section of an area Bureau of Animal Industry, and grouped around this bureau with its laboratories would be those whose public duty it is to assist in the maintenance of the well-being and the health of our animal population. Were such methods adopted, I believe we should quickly obtain fuller information about disease and make decided progress in the prevention of disease.

"Mr. R. S. Roberts said that at the present moment the research work as it emanated from the institutes was far beyond, and useless to, veterinary practitioners. For example, taking up a journal dealing with the subject of infectious diseases, and looking under the index heading 'brucella,' he read these titles: 'agglutinin absorption studies on brucella,' 'metabolism and viability in aqueous solution,' 'microbic dissociation in the brucella group.' It was therefore becoming essential that there should be in the country a certain profession of persons who had a knowledge of the intricate aspects of the subject, but who had not entirely forgotten that they were also connected with animal disease. That was the gap which they were trying to fill with their work at Wye. They endeavoured to bring research work to bear upon actual problems. A good example came to his notice a few weeks ago when a research worker discovered a vaccine against a disease of sheep and expressed the view that it should be used. They immediately made some of the vaccine by growing the bacteria in broth and concentrating it. The experiment was tried with guinea-pigs, but they later found that to save five sheep it would require all the broth that could be obtained by boiling a whole ox. The vaccine was condemned. With regard to contagious abortion, they were at present controlling the disease in about 20 different herds, one of which consisted of several hundred head of cattle. When a new herd was taken on, the premises had to be visited for advice to be given about isolation, the veterinary surgeon had to be approached and arrangements made for drawing blood samples. The results of the blood testing had to be interpreted, cross-filed and the owners informed. In the last four months they had carried out over 1,500 of those blood tests. It was obvious that there was in the country so much of the disease that it was very urgent to find some form of vaccination to be used in infected herds where isolation was impossible. They had now had for a long period a strain of the abortion organism which had lost its power of infecting animals. In the last year especially they had been working very hard with that and had during that period vaccinated about 250 guinea-pigs. They were sufficiently satisfied with their results to use it in the field if the owner wished it."

Correspondence

Letters to the Editor should reach the Office not later than by the first post on Tuesday morning for insertion in following Saturday's issue.

All correspondence must bear the name and address of the contributor for publication.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

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"HOW THE VETERINARY ADVISER CAN HELP THE FARMER"

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—I enclose a cutting from the *Kentish Gazette* of February 25th. [This is reproduced in our Notes and News columns.—Ed. *V.R.*]

From Mr. McEwen's address it would appear that he would like to make Wye College into a miniature Ministry of Agriculture, to the detriment of the country practitioner.

Yours faithfully,

E. Morgan.

South House,
Faversham.

February 26th, 1933.

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To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—In the current issue of the *Kentish Gazette* there appears the report of an address alleged to have been delivered at a meeting of the East Kent Chamber of Agriculture by Mr. R. S. Roberts, M.R.C.V.S., of the South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.

In this report Mr. Roberts states that "research work as it emanated from the institutes was far beyond and useless to veterinary practitioners," and in order to explain more particularly what he meant, he added: "For example, taking up a journal dealing with the subject of infectious diseases and looking under the index heading 'brucella,' he read these titles: 'agglutinin absorption studies,' 'metabolism and viability in aqueous solutions,' 'microbic dissociation in the brucella group.'"

No further explanation is given and one is left to suppose that Mr. Roberts intended to convey to this meeting of eminent agriculturists (who presumably *did* understand what he was talking about) that such terms as he had delivered himself of were far beyond the ken of the average practitioner, for without a break the following sentence occurs in the report: "It was therefore becoming essential that there should be in the country a certain profession of persons who had a knowledge of the intricate aspects of the subject but who had not entirely forgotten that they were also connected with animal disease."

If Mr. Roberts is correctly reported, I feel bound to say that his statements are exceedingly unwise, if not untrue, and are calculated to cause considerable ill feeling, at least among the practitioners among whom presumably he hopes to work in amity. Mr. Roberts' statements suggest that he is lacking in a knowledge of practitioners in general and particularly those in East Kent. Furthermore, he is no more complimentary to veterinary research workers, for he informs his agricultural listeners that in attempting to elucidate the reported work of such a worker who had studied a certain sheep disease, he (Mr. Roberts) had calculated that it would be necessary to boil up a whole ox in order to provide sufficient vaccine to protect five sheep.

We are then informed that this is the "gap which they were trying to fill by their work at Wye."

Briefly, then, it would seem that the advice tendered by Mr. Roberts to East Kent agriculturists is that it is useless to consult the average practitioner because the published work of institutes is far above them and they are quite unable to unravel and correctly interpret the queer and apparently inexplicable jargon (except to Mr. Roberts) that is to be found in their reports. Nevertheless (it may be further inferred) the farmer need not despair, for these apparently insuperable difficulties may easily be overcome by applying to the Veterinary Advisory Officer at Wye who, from his pontifical edifice, will make all things clear to all men.

I purposely refrain from expressing any opinion as to the desirability or otherwise of a veterinary advisory service (this is a political question which can better be argued in another place), but would content myself by saying that if the arguments propounded by Mr. Roberts in his address are the only ones he has to offer in support of such a contention, the situation would appear to be somewhat flimsy.

I am,
Yours obediently,
George W. Dunkin.

Rhodes Farm,
Mill Hill,
N.W.7.

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"LETHAL CHAMBERS"

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—I think many members of the profession will be greatly interested in the correspondence which you are publishing in regard to the humane destruction of small animals. Veterinary surgeons are frequently asked to give an opinion on the best method to adopt, and I feel that many find the question very difficult to answer.

To assist a discussion on the subject I consider that we should define in our own minds the difference between mental distress and physical pain. To some extent both are inevitable and most of us naturally aim at making the period of suffering as short as possible. Mental distress is doubtless experienced by a small animal when it is restrained or placed in a confined place, such as a lethal or electrocution chamber, especially by a stranger, but dogs and cats are frequently confined in boxes, etc., against their will for conveyance and no physical pain is experienced. In the case of a lethal chamber, properly constructed and fed with a suitable gas, physical pain can probably be ruled out though death is not instantaneous.

I think it is true to say that carbon monoxide gas is non-irritant and not unpleasant. Most of us know that the fumes of coal gas or of an exhaust pipe from a motor car are merely soporific and Mr. Dowland has given striking instances of the effects of coal gas on dogs. I have met persons who positively enjoy "laughing gas" and a dentist friend of mine told me that he always had a good whiff when the day's work was done. He confessed that one day he took an overdose, but that did not deter him.

I have seen dogs and cats destroyed by electrocution and have been struck by the rapidity of the method. I have not been impressed by any arguments I have heard against the general adoption of electrocution when properly conducted with efficient apparatus.

The usual lay idea is the administration of chloroform. I consider that this method causes mental distress owing to the need of restraint, and it is by no means rapid in action.

The administration of prussic acid by any method is doubtless rapid in skilled hands, but the evidence of acute physical pain is sufficient, in my opinion, to make it objectionable.

Shooting may be very effective and there is much to be said in favour of it. It is by no means fool proof and the human element of uncertainty is a grave argument against it. This applies more particularly in the case of small animals. The method is objectionable in that it entails some degree of mutilation.

The whole subject needs investigation and discussion and I trust that it may be well ventilated. My experience is fairly wide and only leads me to say that I am merely dissatisfied and have a very open mind in the matter. I do know of several cases where animals apparently destroyed by prussic acid and chloroform have recovered in a marvellous way.

I cannot help thinking that a properly constructed lethal chamber attached to the exhaust pipe of a motor car should be effective and humane. The gas should be filtered through cotton-wool and water, of course, and there should not be much difficulty about that.

In the meantime, in the absence of any serious arguments against the method, I pin my faith to electrocution properly carried out.

Yours faithfully,
G. K. Walker.

Abingdon.
February 27th, 1933.

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To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—Letters in your columns from Lieut.-Colonel Wakefield Rainey and Mr. K. J. S. Dowland, give one food for thought.

I suppose all qualified practitioners are able to decide for themselves which method best suits the individual case.

Sometimes a client wishes to see the dog destroyed, and therein lies a difficulty, as I see it.

Has a man who wishes to have his dog destroyed the right to choose the method by which the dog shall be killed? I think he has. Who among us has not been moved by the sight of a big, strong man in tears while his dog is being destroyed?

Mr. Dowland facetiously suggests that one might "catch the dog feeding or asleep, then blow the place up with high explosive." I am a Scot, but I cannot see a joke in that statement. If Mr. Dowland will give the matter just a little more consideration perhaps he will regret that suggestion.

May I venture to assert that members of our profession do not usually treat the lethal question so flippantly. Just in case one finds in a letter to the Editor more levity than one feels is warranted by the subject matter, dare I suggest a "censor"?

Yours faithfully,
David T. Reid, m.r.c.v.s.

Dorking.
February 24th, 1933.

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To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—I have read Captain Dowland's letter on the subject of the destruction of the smaller animals and ask to be allowed to say a few words.

In his last paragraph Captain Dowland criticises Colonel Rainey's action in writing to the lay press before consulting the profession. He is evidently unaware that some years ago, when I was his assistant, Colonel Rainey took the same

subject up in the *Record*,* but received little or no support and felt that only by writing to the lay press an article of a more sensational character and one that appealed to the emotions of the general public could any further headway be made.

I would say that reason without emotional appeal does not lead to humanitarianism. The emotional appeal of Charles Dickens abolished debtors' prisons and reformed the poor laws. The emotional appeal of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" abolished slavery in America. The emotional appeal of humanitarians in this country led to the control of vivisection, with which we all now agree. The ideal is the combination of reason with emotional appeal, and I think Colonel Rainey's arguments are not without reason as Captain Dowland thinks they are not without emotion. It is only when the emotions are stirred that most people will take the trouble to reason.

I am in sympathy with much that Captain Dowland writes, but feel that the use of chloroform in the hands of the unqualified leads to abuse. I have a great deal of destruction of small animals to do here in East London, and in the past have shot dogs, but found that people do not like the sight of blood and think of their own feelings first. I consider shooting the best method and never found trouble in controlling animals, provided patience and understanding were used.

Like Captain Dowland, I know what it is to suffer a general anæsthetic, and the thought of an animal perhaps already badly hurt, being placed into a small box and chloroformed, cotton-wool waved about until, after a long interval, unconsciousness is produced, as is done in quack clinics, makes me feel that the use of chloroform, etc., in the hands of the unqualified should be stopped and legislation provided for its proper and more skilful employment.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
Frederick Land.

20, High Street,
Bow,
London, E.3.
February 27th, 1933.

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To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—There are people so happily and whimsically constituted that they will discover humour, objectively, in any situation. Some time ago we had the humour of the front-line trenches, elaborated from a safer place: more recently, the fun that lurks in funerals has been lyrically revealed. Your correspondent, Captain Dowland, has turned fresh ground in finding scope for jest in a consideration of the death agonies of dogs, and I suppose we should be grateful for this light relief to a gruesome topic. In the serious part of his argument Captain Dowland seems to be at cross-purposes with me, either mistakenly or wilfully, or both. He seems to be solely concerned to prove that the destruction of dogs and cats by means of coal gas in skilled and careful hands is more humane than shooting or prussic acid, *and he may be right as regards prussic acid*. Reference to my letter will show that I did not dogmatise on that point: my objective was and is a much bigger question. I was and am solely concerned to draw public attention to the torture that has been, and is still being, inflicted upon animals all over the country, and outside the country, by the *abuse* of lethal chambers *as generally used*.

Lethal chambers include the great number of chloroform boxes in use by animal protection societies, pharmaceutical chemists, and quacks. If Captain Dowland believes that death in a chloroform box is euthanasia, then I invite him to come with me to a place I will appoint and watch a cat being destroyed by this means in the "lethal chamber" supplied to me by the R.S.P.C.A. I think he would then agree with me that prussic acid is preferable to such a death.

Unless some check is placed upon the development of the motor car exhaust gas method, lethal chambers will presently include (because so cheap and available where coal gas is not available) the extensive use of this means, which is potentially a means of torture.

Again, if Captain Dowland is sceptical I invite him to watch with me what often happens when dogs are subjected to a strong mixture of motor car exhaust gas. *I suggest that there is in the nascent or raw carbon monoxide of exhaust gas a maddening quality obnoxious to animals, which is absent in stored coal gas.*

Captain Dowland asks why I specify *adult* dogs in referring to their olfactory and instinctive reactions to exhaust gas. Surely as a veterinarian he must be aware that the sense of smell and the instinct of self-preservation develop as the animal grows and are not fully developed till the animal is mature. Or has he never tried to follow a trail with a half-grown puppy; or to stalk an old deer or even a rabbit as compared with a half-grown one? I do not wish to be in any way rude or personal: it is vital to my argument to point out that it is precisely this lack of knowledge or appreciation of what may be called animal lore, in the mental equipment of some of the exponents of the lethal chamber which makes any agreement so difficult. Until it is fully realised that the sense of smell which can enable an adult hound to follow the faint scent of a female hare across a ploughed field is far beyond the scope of human estimate, it will not be appreciated what such an animal must feel when it is shut up in a box with motor car exhaust gas.

Perhaps Captain Dowland's coal gas poisoning cases were in puppies: one had heard of adult dogs and cats awakening people by barking or mewing when there has been an escape of coal gas.

It is, of course, indisputable that carbon monoxide in coal gas or in exhaust gas is a means of euthanasia for man, and from that fact it has been inferred that it is humane for animals. In some respects this inference can be proved to be based on a false analogy, and when a thing is false in part it may well be false in the whole. For example, it has been established that under certain conditions of concentration exhaust gas seems to drive dogs frantic with irritation and distress, whereas this reaction is not observed in man.

Even under the most favourable conditions some dogs will howl long and loudly, in what I think is distress, before they become indisputably unconscious: they do not just become unconscious and die quietly as a man does, although they are dumb animals.

Rats, in many instances, will bolt in terror from exhaust gas, whereas more apparently irritating but less toxic gases (such as sulphur-dioxide and the products of the interaction of sulphuric acid and common salt) will not bolt a single rat. Simple irritation alone will not usually budge rats: it is the *deadly* principle in exhaust gas which they apprehend and flee from in such overwhelming terror.

* Vol. vii, No. 15 (April 9, 1927), page 342.

Captain Dowland puts it well in his phrase "strangulation by an invisible hand." One can only suppose that the far more acute sense of smell, acting in conjunction with the instinct for self-preservation, in some of the lower animals enables them so to apprehend the significance of carbon monoxide and its associated gases as to know instinctively that they are deadly. Veterinarians and others in the past have often been led into error by assuming an identity with man in the reactions of the lower animals to certain drugs, and I believe that motor car exhaust gas is a case in point. Man certainly does not seem to be instinctively aware of the danger of exhaust gas or to be terrified or nauseated by it as all rats and some adult dogs plainly are. Their reactions are different.

Reverting to the consideration of prussic acid, I have found that for killing cats and small dogs one can become so expert with the intra-thoracic method that it is often preferable on the grounds of practicability alone—the ground floor entrance, in fact. When one is called to a dog lying on its side with a fatal injury from a street accident it is so easy and humane to inject that one naturally takes that course, if it is not expedient to shoot. My technique is to work from behind the animal and to pass a long fine hypodermic needle through the right wall of the thorax and inject 5 c.c. or more of fresh Scheele's prussic acid. The objection to shooting is so deeply rooted in some people that it is insuperable. Yet it is absurdly easy to others.

Go to a country fair and see the young men lining up at the shooting booth: observe with what nonchalance they pick off the dancing celluloid balls and clay pipes and compare that facility with the task of putting a bullet through a dog's head at a range of two inches! The ideal instrument for shooting dogs is a ·22 calibre humane killer pistol or short rifle operated by a trigger and fitted with a silencer. A specially short cartridge is used to obviate unnecessary force and danger. The report of such a weapon is hardly audible in the next room of a well-built house. For vicious or suspicious dogs the shot may be directed behind the ear so as to pass through the centre of the brain towards the opposite eye. With quiet animals the shot may be directed in the way used for horses and cattle. I have shot many hundreds of animals and have never found the margin of error too *narrow*. Any fear of a return to consciousness is removed by injecting 5 c.c. of prussic acid into the thorax immediately the animal is shot: this is sound practice, which should never be neglected if the means are at hand. (Captain Dowland finds the margin of error too *wide*! One of us must be wrong.) It is a very simple surgical operation, in comparison with many we have all had to perform. Cats are instantaneously and easily destroyed by placing the animal in a long, narrow and shallow wicker basket, having a lid made of parallel, widely-spaced willow. One simply fires through a space into the head of the animal at a range of one or two inches. Error seems impossible. The only real objection is the *post-mortem* bleeding which sometimes occurs, and that is a difficulty which must be weighed against the undoubted advantage to the animal.

I think that these observations, though they may never overcome prejudice, may help to dispose of the charges of unpracticability. Many of us remember with what opposition and even ridicule the suggestion of using humane killers in abattoirs was first received. I understand that to-day in Denmark all animals intended for human food are killed with some adaptation of the fire-arm.

Where there is a will there is, usually, a way.

I would point out that Captain Dowland unwittingly does me an injustice when he suggests that I rushed into print in the lay press before consulting the bulk of professional opinion. If he will search the back files of the veterinary press he will find that I tried long ago to awaken the profession to the abuses of lethal chambers, and to the dangers that lay in protracted death. I also made other efforts, considerable efforts, that were not published. It was because there was no response of any sort to my efforts on those occasions that I went to the lay press when a suitable opportunity occurred, and I am glad that I did, because at long last my efforts have aroused Captain Dowland and others to debate the question in public and in private. Already the venture is bearing fruit: we have to-day learned from Captain Dowland that chloroform is a thing he could show us to be the wrong agent to use in lethal chambers, whereas we know that one of the biggest lethalling institutions in England—the Battersea Dogs' Home—uses chloroform.

Where there is such extraordinary divergence of opinion among the expert exponents of lethal chambers surely there is room for every sort of investigation, and surely Captain Dowland cannot blame me for taking the only chance left to me to awaken the public conscience in the matter.

In conclusion, I will make the concrete proposal that the terms of reference of any committee considering this question shall include the following:—

That there shall be legislation:—

(*a*) To prohibit the use by anyone of chloroform and ether in lethal chambers or boxes for destroying dogs and cats.

(*b*) To prohibit the intentional destruction of dogs and cats by means of chloroform or ether *except by registered veterinary or medical practitioners.*

(*c*) To prohibit the use by anyone of motor car exhaust gas in lethal chambers for destroying cats and dogs.

(*d*) To insist that all lethal chambers shall be constructed mainly of plate glass so that the animal can clearly see and be seen.

(*e*) To give powers for the prohibition of any lethal agent (other than those now being used) which may be introduced in the future, or used in the future, except as may be advised by a Veterinary Committee to be appointed.

(*f*) To authorise the Home Office inspection of any places where dogs and cats are customarily destroyed.

Yours faithfully,
J. Wakefield Rainey (Lieut.-Colonel).

Burlington,
Newbury,
Berks.
February 25th, 1933.

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KERATOMA

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—*Apropos* the discussion on keratoma at the "Central," I have always found operation for this affection successful, although very laborious.

The method I adopted was to saw through the wall, as far as the white line, two parallel cuts set obliquely. The horn between these incisions, containing the keratoma, was then removed and a plug of hard wood dovetailed into the recess. One Shire mare I operated on in 1912 was sold

at Peterborough the following year, in-foal, for over 100 guineas. This mare went to work on the land a week after operation.

In 1913 I operated on a brewers' dray horse in the same manner and he went to work in a fortnight and kept sound until claimed for the Army in August, 1914.

The first case was shod with a plain shoe and leather sole, the second in a rocker bar shoe for three months, afterwards a plain shoe.

In each case the keratoma resembled a date-stone in consistency and was about three times as large. The idea of the plug was to relieve any lateral pressure, as in operating by this method for "sand-crack."

I regret the tumours were lost, together with many other "trophies" when I left my house at Wanstead. Professor McCunn would not, I think, experience any difficulty in obtaining a specimen from a knacker-yard as the condition is, in my opinion, a very common one, especially in old hunters. It is often ignored as it may give rise to deformity without crippling lameness, the hoof accommodating itself to the growth. In very hard hooves this accommodation does not occur and lameness from pressure results. Of late years I have always attempted to give the necessary amount of relief with simple hoof-section by means of multiple saw-cuts. On one hunter's hoof I operated twice every year for five seasons. This animal, a big mare by "Holiday House," always came up lame from grass from disuse atrophy resulting in contraction onto the tumour. I made nine saw-cuts into the hoof wall, three at the toe and three at each quarter every September and January for five seasons and she carried a fifteen-stone man well to hounds all the time.

As she is now in-foal I have not seen her this season but the stud-groom tells me she is quite sound.

Yours faithfully,

David Eric Wilkinson.

Oakwood,
Chigwell,
Essex.

February 25th, 1933.

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WHAT IS THIS "SO-CALLED SEWAGE POISONING IN CATTLE"?

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—I shall be grateful to any of your readers who can enlighten me by answering the above question.

Judging from the number of questions on this subject that have recently been put to me by legal friends, there are, apparently, some members of the veterinary profession full of information regarding the matter.

Is there, or is there not, any such thing as "*sewage poisoning*" in cattle; and if there is, what is it, scientifically speaking?

In a case where milk happened to be the medium conveying the infection of scarlet fever from one person to another, no medical man would be satisfied with a diagnosis of "*milk poisoning*"! Nor would the medical authorities of this country have been satisfied if the recent outbreak of typhoid in Yorkshire had been diagnosed as "*water poisoning*"!

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Lishman.

23, Queen's Gate Gardens,
S.W.7.

February 26th, 1933.

TUBERCULIN TESTING

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—When Professor Buxton was collecting statistics *re* the double intradermal tuberculin test, about six or seven years ago, from those who had been carrying out the test, I stated in my report that I attached more importance to the character of the swelling than to skin measurements. When those reports were published, my remark was not mentioned.

If skin measurements are to be accepted as diagnostic, it appears to me rather difficult to compare the skin of a Hereford bull with that of a Guernsey or Jersey, and similarly, a Hereford or cross-bred with a Guernsey or Jersey cow.

I rely upon the character of the swelling and I agree with Mr. Coleman that there is an indescribable something about the swelling which no-one can put into words.

J. P. Railton.

The White House,
Kington,
Herefordshire.

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RUPTURE OF THE GASTROCNEMIUS

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—I was very interested in a report in your issue of February 18th, by Mr. Brayley Reynolds, regarding rupture of the gastrocnemius in a yearling colt.

Last August I had a similar case in a cow following an attack of milk fever. In this case I imagine the muscle was completely severed, as when the cow stood up, after being down for 11 days, the point of the hock was actually touching the ground.

This cow, in the course of four months, recovered sufficiently well to take her place in the herd. She is still slightly lame. At the seat of repair a mass of fibrous tissue has formed which is six or seven inches thick.

Yours faithfully,

C. R. A. Powell.

1, Brook Street,
New Bedford Road,
Luton.

February 28th, 1933.

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SIR F. HOBDAY DINNER

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—In view of the magnitude of the correspondence concerning the complimentary dinner to Sir Frederick Hobday, which is to be held at the Mayfair Hotel on March 24th, I would be grateful to be permitted once again to use your columns.

Professor James Macqueen has kindly consented to take the chair and final arrangements have now been made. It will greatly facilitate matters if those ladies and gentlemen who have signified their intention to be present, will now be good enough to forward to me the cost of the tickets required. The price has been fixed at 15s. 6d. each.

Very commodious accommodation for cars is directly adjacent to the hotel entrance in Berkeley Street, Piccadilly.

Yours faithfully,

Hamilton Kirk.

"Croyland,"
658, Finchley Road,
Golders Green.

February 27th, 1933.